

FEB 19 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: Gilman A. Hill

Serial Number: 10/614,272

Art Unit: 3672

Filed: July 7, 2003

Examiner: William P. Neuder

For: Method for Upward Growth of a Hydraulic Fracture along a Well-Bore Annulus

**AMENDMENT UNDER C.F.R. 1.111**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to an Office Action Summary dated November 23, 2004, please see the following amendments to the claims and remarks related to the allowance of the application.

**STATUS OF THE APPLICATION**

Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application.

Claim 3 is objected to for certain informalities.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,964,289 to Hill.

Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 8-20 are allowed.

Please see the following amended and original claims on separate pages.